US Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District

Draft Baltimore Harbor and Channels Dredged Material Management Plan and Tiered Environmental Impact Statement

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LEAD AGENCY

U.S. Department of Defense

TITLE Baltimore Harbor and Channels Dredged Material Management Plan and Draft Tiered Environmental Impact Statement.

CONTACT

Additional copies or information concerning this document can be obtained from Mr. Mark Mendelsohn, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, MD 21203. Telephone: (410) 962-9499 or 1-800-295-1610.

ABSTRACT

In accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Baltimore District has prepared a Draft Tiered Environmental Impact Statement (DTEIS) and Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) to analyze dredged material placement for the Port of Baltimore for 20 years of maintenance and new work dredging. USACE is making the document available to the public for review and comment through a Notice of Availability published in the Federal Register. The overall goal of the DMMP is to develop a plan to maintain, in an economically and environmentally sound manner, channels necessary for navigation for the Port of Baltimore, conduct dredged material placement in the most environmentally sound manner, and maximize the use of dredged material as a beneficial resource. The recommendations that will provide a minimum of 20 years of dredged material placement capacity for the Port of Baltimore are:

- Continued use of open water placement in Virginia (Dam Neck Open Water Placement; Rappahannock Shoal Deep Alternate Open Water Placement; Wolf Trap Alternate Open Water Placement).
- Optimized use of existing dredged material management sites in Maryland, including Pooles Island Open Water Site, Hart-Miller Island Dredged Material Containment Facility, Cox Creek Confined Disposal Facility and Poplar Island Environmental Restoration Project (PIERP).
- Multiple confined disposal facilities for harbor material in Patapsco River.
- Poplar Island Environmental Restoration Project (PIERP) Expansion.
- Large Island Restoration-Middle Chesapeake Bay.
- Wetland Restoration-Dorchester County.

AVAILABILITY

Copies are available for public review at the following public reading rooms.

(1) Queen Anne's Public Library, Stevensville Branch, 200 Library Circle, Stevensville, MD 21666

(2) Essex County Public Library, 1110 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21221

(3) Anne Arundel County Public Library, 1410 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

(4) St. Mary's County Public Library, 23250 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650

(5) Somerset County Public Library, 11767 Beachwood St, Princess Anne, MD 21853

(6) Dorchester County Public Library, 303 Gay St, Cambridge, MD 21613

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Department of the Army encourages public participation in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement was published in the Federal Register in May 2002 and scoping meetings were held in June 2002. The public was invited to provide oral comments at the scoping meetings and to submit additional comments to the Baltimore District.

Two public meetings will be held in March 2005 for the Baltimore Harbor and Channels Dredged Material Management Plan and Draft EIS document. The first public meeting on the draft will be held at Queen Annes Public Library, Stevensville Branch, 200 Library Circle, Stevensville, Maryland 21666, on Monday March 7, 2005 beginning at 7 p.m. The second public meeting will be held at Essex Community College, 7201 Rossville Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21237 in the Lecture Hall Building J on the first floor, on Thursday March 10, 2005 beginning at 7 p.m. Staff will be available one hour prior to meeting start time. Both meetings will provide an opportunity for the public to present oral and/or written comments. All persons and organizations that have an interest in the DMMP are urged to participate in one or both meetings.

The USACE must receive comments on or before March 28, 2005, to ensure consideration in the final plan. Please send written comments concerning this report to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: Mr. Mark Mendelsohn, Planning Division, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, MD 21203. Telephone: (410) 962-9499 or 1-800-295-1610. Please submit electronic comments to mark.mendelsohn@usace.army.mil. Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; please do not attach any files. Please include your name and address in your message. You may view the Draft TEIS and related information on our web page at http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/projects/DMMP/index.html. USACE has distributed copies of the Draft TEIS to appropriate members of Congress, State and local government officials, Federal agencies, and other interested parties.

After the public comment period ends on March 28, 2005, USACE will consider all comments received. The Draft TEIS will be revised as appropriate and a Final TEIS will be issued.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AE&D	advance engineering and design
AIC	Artificial Island Creation
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act
APE	area of potential effect
ASMFC	Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
bcy	billion cubic yards
BEWG	Bay Enhancement Working Group
B-IBI	Benthic Index of Biotic Integrity
BMP	best management practice
bp	before present
bu	bushels
C&D	Chesapeake and Delaware
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAC	Citizens' Advisory Committee
CAD	confined aquatic disposal
CDF	confined disposal facility
CBP	Chesapeake Bay Program
CBBMP	Chesapeake Bay Benthic Monitoring Program
CBBT	Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel
CBSAC	Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee
CE	cost effectiveness analysis
CENAB	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
CENAO	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District
CENAP	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System
CHKOH	Chickahominy River
CO	carbon monoxide
CQE	Council on Environmental Quality
CRRMH	Corrotoman River
CWA	Clean Water Act
cy	cubic yard
dB	decibel
dBA	weighted-A decibel scale
DMA	Dredged Material Area

LIST OF ACRONYMS
(Continued)

DMCF	Dredged Material Containment Facility
DMMP	Dredged Material Management Program
DN	disseminated neoplasia
DO	dissolved oxygen
E	endangered
E&S	erosion and sedimentation
EFH	essential fish habitat
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act
EPW	Evaluation for Planned Wetlands
ER	Engineering Regulation
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESC	Erosion and Soil Control
ETM	Estuarine Turbidity Maximum
FE	federally endangered
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FPP	Farmland Protection Policy
FMP	Fishery Management Plan
FT	federally threatened
ft/s	feet/second
FWCA	Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
GIS	Geographic Information System
gpm	gallons per minute
GRR	General Re-evaluation Report
HAPC	Habitat Areas of Potential Concern
HEP	Habitat Evaluation Procedure
HMI	Hart-Miller Island
HTRS	hazardous, toxic, and radioactive substance
HTRW	hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
ICA	incremental cost analysis
ITM	Inland Testing Manual
ITR	Independent Technical Review
lf	linear feet
LID	low-impact development

LIST OF ACRONYMS
(Continued)

LIR	Large Island Restoration
LWCFA	Land and Water Conservation Fund Act
ma	million years ago
MAFMC	Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
MACEJ	Maryland Advisory Council on Environmental Justice
MBWSR	Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
mcy	millions in cubic yards
MD DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment
mg/L	milligrams per liter
MGS	Maryland Geological Survey
MHT	Maryland Historic Trust
MinRAM	Minnesota Routine Assessment Method for Evaluating Wetland Functions
MLLW	mean lower low water
MNRP	Maryland Natural Resources Police
MPA	Maryland Port Administration
MPRSA	Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act
msl	mean sea level
NAAQS	national ambient air quality standard
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NAS	Naval Air Station
NCDC	National Climatic Data Center
NCDEHNR	North Carolina Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
nm	nautical miles
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOB	natural oyster bar
Norfolk DMA	Norfolk Ocean Dredged Material Area
NOx	nitrogen oxides
NPL	National Priorities List
NPS	National Park Service
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places

LIST OF ACRONYMS
(Continued)

NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
O&M	operation and maintenance
MNR	Ministry of Natural Resources
PA	Preliminary Assessment
PADEP	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
PAHs	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
PELs	probable effects levels
PGL	Planning Guidance Letter
PIERP	Poplar Island Environmental Restoration Project
PM	particulate matter
PMP	Project Management Plan
PPA	Pollution Prevention Act
psu	practical salinity unit
QA/QC	quality assurance/quality control
RCRIS	Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System
ROD	Record of Decision
RPPMH	Lower Rappahannock River
RPPTF	Upper Rappahannock River
RTE	rare, threatened, and endangered
SAFMC	South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council
SAV	submerged aquatic vegetation
SC	special concern
sf	square feet
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SIR	Small Island Restoration
SOx	sulfur oxides
SNS	shortnose sturgeon
SRBC	Susquehanna River Basin Commission
SSPRA	Sensitive Species Project Review Areas
SWH	shallow water habitat
T	threatened
TCE	trichloroethene
TELs	threshold effects levels
TMDL	total maximum daily load
TOC	total organic carbon

LIST OF ACRONYMS
(Continued)

TPH	total petroleum hydrocarbons
TRI	Toxic Release Inventory
TSS	total suspended solids
U.S. EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VADEQ	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
VDCR	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
VESCL&R	Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Law, Regulations, and Certification Regulations
VIMS	Virginia Institute of Marine Science
VMRC	Virginia Marine Resources Commission
VNRHP	Virginia Natural Resources Heritage Program
VOC	volatile organic compound
WCSC	Waterborne Commerce Statistical Center
WET	wetland evaluation technique
WQI	Wetland Quality Index
WRAP	Wetland Rapid Assessment Procedure
WRDA	Water Resources Development Act
WWTP	wastewater treatment plant

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TOC	total organic carbon
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TSS	total suspended solids
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USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VADEQ	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
VDCR	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
VESCL&R	Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Law, Regulations, and Certification Regulations
VIMS	Virginia Institute of Marine Science
VMRC	Virginia Marine Resources Commission
VNRHP	Virginia Natural Resources Heritage Program
VOC	volatile organic compound
WCSC	Waterborne Commerce Statistical Center
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